Application Number: 10/697,826 Amendment Dated October 23, 2006 Reply to Office Action of: August 23, 2006

Amendment filed: December 22, 2006

REMARKS

Prior to entry of the present amendment, claims 27-46 and 72, 73 and 75-95 were pending in the present application. Claims 72, 72 and 75-94 are canceled above. Claims 28, 31, 38, and 95 are amended above. No new matter is added by the claim amendments. Entry of the claim amendments is respectfully requested.

The applicants note, with appreciation, that the Office Action indicates at page 2, paragraph 1, that claims 27-46 are allowed. The applicants note that claim 95 is dependent from allowed claim 27 and is believed to be allowable. Allowance of claim 95 is respectfully requested.

Claims 72-73, 75-83 and 87-89 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nishiyama (U.S. Patent Number 6,548,875). Claims 84-86 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nishiyama in view of Liu (U.S. Patent Number 6,528,847). Claim 90 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nishiyama in view of Lee, *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 6,376,318).

With the above cancellation of claims 72, 73 and 75-94, only allowed claims 27-46, and claim 95, believed to be allowable, remain pending in the present application. Reconsideration and removal of the rejection of claims 72, 73 and 75-94, and allowance of the application, are respectfully requested.

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Closing Remarks

It is submitted that all claims are in condition for allowance, and such allowance is respectfully requested. If prosecution of the application can be expedited by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 22, 2006

Mills & Onello, LLP

Eleven Beacon Street, Suite 605

Boston, MA 02108

Telephone: (617) 994-4900, Ext. 4902

Facsimile: (617) 742-7774

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Anthony P. Onello, Jr.

Registration Number 38,572

Attorney for Applicant